



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/590,405	10/30/2007	Franciscus J. Klosters	NL04 0241 US1	8682
65913	7590	09/22/2008	EXAMINER	
NXP, B.V. NXP INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPARTMENT M/S41-SJ 1109 MCKAY DRIVE SAN JOSE, CA 95131			GUYTON, PHILIP A	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2113	
			NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			09/22/2008	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

ip.department.us@nxp.com

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/590,405	Applicant(s) KLOSTERS, FRANCISCUS J.	
	Examiner PHILIP GUYTON	Art Unit 2113	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 August 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 23 August 2006 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>20060823</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. Figures 1 and 2 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). Corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

2. The following guidelines illustrate the preferred layout for the specification of a utility application. These guidelines are suggested for the applicant's use.

Arrangement of the Specification

As provided in 37 CFR 1.77(b), the specification of a utility application should include the following sections in order. Each of the lettered items should appear in upper case, without underlining or bold type, as a section heading. If no text follows the section heading, the phrase "Not Applicable" should follow the section heading:

(a) TITLE OF THE INVENTION.

(b) CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS.

- (c) STATEMENT REGARDING FEDERALLY SPONSORED RESEARCH OR DEVELOPMENT.
- (d) THE NAMES OF THE PARTIES TO A JOINT RESEARCH AGREEMENT.
- (e) INCORPORATION-BY-REFERENCE OF MATERIAL SUBMITTED ON A COMPACT DISC.
- (f) BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION.
 - (1) Field of the Invention.
 - (2) Description of Related Art including information disclosed under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.
- (g) BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION.
- (h) BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWING(S).
- (i) DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION.
- (j) CLAIM OR CLAIMS (commencing on a separate sheet).
- (k) ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE (commencing on a separate sheet).
- (l) SEQUENCE LISTING (See MPEP § 2424 and 37 CFR 1.821-1.825. A "Sequence Listing" is required on paper if the application discloses a nucleotide or amino acid sequence as defined in 37 CFR 1.821(a) and if the required "Sequence Listing" is not submitted as an electronic document on compact disc).

3. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: page 4, line 27 refers to asynchronous processor 451 and clock fail detection circuit 451.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

4. Claims 1 and 6 are objected to because of the following informalities: the phrase "bring the electronic circuit arrangement in a pre-defined state" is grammatically incorrect.

Art Unit: 2113

5. Claim 5 is objected to because of the following informalities: reference to a "bus station as claimed in claim 3" lacks antecedent basis.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

7. Claims 1-4 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,089,462 to Floyd et al. (hereinafter Floyd).

With respect to claim 1, Floyd discloses an electronic circuit arrangement comprising a clock fail circuit (figure 2, item 40 – clock fault detector) arranged for receiving a clock signal and generating an error signal upon the absence of a clock signal (column 3, lines 29-35), characterized in that the electronic circuit arrangement further comprises an asynchronous processor (figure 1, items 34A-b and column 1, lines 25-35) arranged for receiving said error signal and to bring the electronic circuit arrangement in a pre-defined state upon detection of the error signal (column 3, lines 35-46).

Art Unit: 2113

With respect to claim 2, Floyd discloses in that the asynchronous processor comprises an interrupt input for receiving the error signal and is further arranged to execute software instructions upon reception of the signal (column 3, lines 32-46).

With respect to claim 3, Floyd discloses an integrated circuit comprising an electronic circuit arrangement as claimed in claim 1 (figures 1-3).

With respect to claim 4, Floyd discloses a bus station for use in a bus system comprising an electronic circuit arrangement as claimed in claim 1 (figure 1).

With respect to claim 6, Floyd discloses a method for bringing an electronic circuit arrangement in a predetermined state, whereby the electronic circuit arrangement comprises a clock fail circuit (figure 2, item 40 – clock fault detector) that detects the absence of a clock signal and generates an error signal in response (column 3, lines 29-35), characterized in that the electronic circuit arrangement further comprises an asynchronous processor (figure 1, items 34A-b and column 1, lines 25-35) that brings the electronic circuit arrangement in the pre-defined state (column 3, lines 35-46).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Art Unit: 2113

9. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Floyd in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,959,014 to Pohlmeier et al. (hereinafter Pohlmeier).

Floyd does not disclose expressly wherein the bus station is a bus station for use in a LIN bus system.

However, Pohlmeier teaches determination of synchronization between transmitters and receivers in a LIN bus system (abstract and column 1, lines 12-27).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify Floyd for use on a LIN bus system, as taught by Pohlmeier. A person of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do so because it is necessary to retain synchronization between nodes in a LIN bus system, as disclosed by Pohlmeier (column 1, lines 22-27). Thus, loss of clock, or clock error would be highly detrimental in a LIN bus system (Pohlmeier – column 2, lines 41-49 and column 4, lines 1-15). Floyd teaches a multiprocessor bus system with clock fault determination (column 1, lines 25-35), which would have been highly integratable with the LIN bus system of Pohlmeier, which is also a multiprocessor bus system (column 2, lines 62-64).

Conclusion

10. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See Form PTO-892 for further pertinent art.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to PHILIP GUYTON whose telephone number is (571)272-3807. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30-4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Beausoliel can be reached on (571) 272-3645. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Philip Guyton/
Examiner, Art Unit 2113